

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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MEXICAN NATIONAL PLEADS GUILTY TO METH VIOLATIONS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican national pleaded guilty in federal court today to distributing and possessing with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

Ruben Ozuna-Estrada, 23, a Mexican national, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon.

By pleading guilty, **Ozuna-Estrada** admitted that he distributed methamphetamine on Dec. 8 and Dec. 13, 2004. **Ozuna-Estrada** also admitted that he possessed with intent to distribute methamphetamine on Dec. 14, 2004.

Specifically, **Ozuna-Estrada** admitted that he either distributed or possessed with intent to distribute approximately 94.49 grams of methamphetamine on four occasions over a six day period. Additionally, during a search of his residence, law enforcement officers discovered a .25-caliber handgun and a set of digital scales.

Ozuna-Estrada was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Jan. 12, 2005, in Kansas City.

Under federal statutes, **Ozuna-Estrada** may be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in federal prison without parole, up to 40 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$2 million.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Rhoades. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow